

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00444 131814Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
TRSE-00 HA-05 BIB-01 /073 W
-----090869 132255Z /73

R 101430Z MAR 88 ZFD
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4244
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
RUEHIAYUSIA WASHDC 2975
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0444

E.O. 11652: GDS
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PAGE 02 SOFIA 00444 131814Z

TAGS: CSCE, PINS, BU
SUBJECT: BULGARIA WITHDRAWS WESTERN NEWSPAPERS FROM SALE

1. SOMETIME DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS, WESTERN NON-COMMUNIST
NEWSPAPERS, ON SALE IN LIMITED QUANTITIES AT A FEW HOTELS AND
KIOSKS IN SOFIA SINCE APRIL 1977, CEASED TO BE AVAILABLE FOR

SALE.

2. PAPERS ON SALE HAD INCLUDED INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, CORRIERE DELLA SERA, LE MONDE, SUEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, AND ARBEITER-ZEITUNG. KIOSKS AND HOTELS NOW, ONCE AGAIN, OFFER ONLY COMMUNIST PAPERS FROM WEST, IN ADDITION TO USUAL SELECTION OF PAPERS FROM WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES AND BULGARIAN PRESS.

3. COMMENT: GOB MOVE MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN HONOR OF WINDING DOWN OF BELGRADE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE. SOME OBSERVERS HAD BELIEVED WHEN SALE BEGAN THAT GOB WOULD NOT BE ABLE LATER TO TAKE AWAY LIMITED CONCESSION IT HAD MADE. SOME BULGARIANS ARE GRUMBLING AT CEASING OF SALE, BUT DO NOT SEEM INCLINED TO RAISE ANY REAL FUSS OVER THE MATTER.
GARTHOFF

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** ONLY

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEWSPAPERS, SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SOFIA00444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780140-0564, D780109-0270
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803123/aaaafiqo.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 60635ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3164486
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970818
Subject: BULGARIA WITHDRAWS WESTERN NEWSPAPERS FROM SALE
TAGS: PINS, BU, CSCE, SOPN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/60635ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014